

ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

# Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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# Aladdin and his Wonderful Lamp



1. The wicked magician had made up his mind that come what may, he was going to have the Magic Lamp. He bought himself some new lamps. Then disguised as a poor pedlar, he waited outside Aladdin's palace until Aladdin rode out with his guards.

2. As soon as Aladdin was out of sight, the magician stepped out into the street. "New lamps for old! New lamps for old!" he shouted. Passers-by turned to stare and little boys laughed and jeered. Who was this foolish man who was offering new lamps for old ones?



3. In Aladdin's palace, his beautiful wife, The Princess Badroul was having her finger-nails polished by a servant girl. One of her ladies-in-waiting suddenly turned from the window and said: "There's a man down there giving new lamps in exchange for old ones."



4. How the Princess and all her other ladies laughed. "What nonsense!" they said. "Whoever heard of anyone exchanging new lamps for old?" The lady-in-waiting stared at them coldly. "I know what I heard and I know what I saw," she replied. "You'll see."





5. The lady-in-waiting ran out of the room. She had just remembered that some weeks ago she had noticed a dirty old lamp at the bottom of one of Aladdin's wardrobes. "Yes, yes, here it is," she smiled, picking up the dirty old lamp.



6. Of course, she did not know that this was the wonderful Magic Lamp that was responsible for all Aladdin's riches and happiness. She ran out of the palace with it and offered it to the wicked magician. "Give me a new lamp for this old one," she cried.



7. The magician snatched the lamp from her grasp and pushed a new lamp into her hand. Greedily he hugged the lamp to his chest. "It's mine — all mine at last!" he chuckled over and over again. Proudly the lady-in-waiting showed the new lamp to the Princess.



8. "I told you the pedlar was giving new lamps for old," the lady called up to the laughing Princess. At that same moment the magician, who had hurried away, rubbed the Magic Lamp. At once the Slave of the Lamp appeared. "What is your wish, O Master?" he asked.

What will the wicked Magician ask for? You will learn next week.





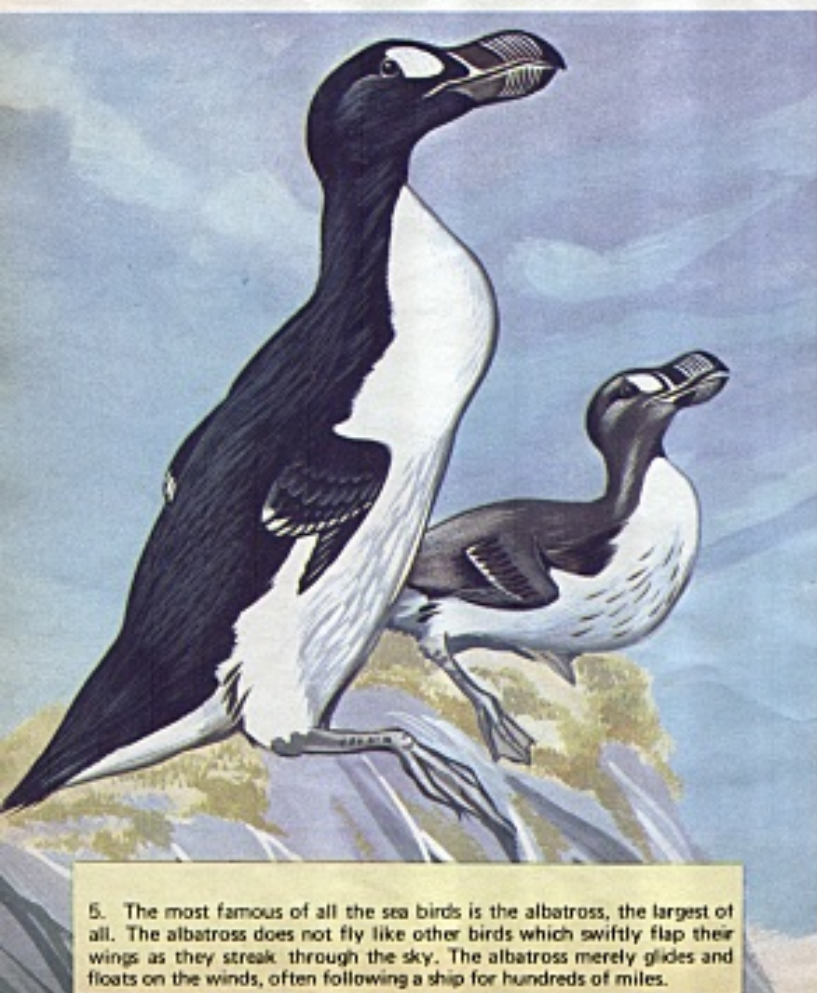
1. When we speak of sea-birds most of us think first of gulls because there are very few coasts in the world where gulls of some kind are not to be seen. These clever birds will carry a mussel into the air and drop it onto the shore to break open the shell.



2. Here is a Puffin, or sea-parrot, as it is sometimes called by sailors. The puffin is a rather comical looking bird, with its large, bright red beak that looks like a funny false nose. Quite often a puffin will use a deserted rabbit hole for its nest, where it can sleep snug and warm.

These are our "Allsorts" pages. Every week you can see all sorts of Allsorts. Here, this week, are eight different types of sea birds.

# All Sorts



5. The most famous of all the sea birds is the albatross, the largest of all. The albatross does not fly like other birds which swiftly flap their wings as they streak through the sky. The albatross merely glides and floats on the winds, often following a ship for hundreds of miles.



6. Here is a famous sea bird which is no longer with us. It is the great auk, which used to live in great numbers on rocky islands near Iceland and Newfoundland. It was a simple, foolish creature, which was unable to look after itself and was therefore unable to survive.





3. Just look at the way the bird in this picture is diving through the air. This is a gannet which hunts for its fish in a way which is very exciting to watch. Rising high into the sky it sails around until it sees a fish in the water below. Then it plunges into the sea in a headlong dive.



4. Here is a cormorant, a greedy bird which will eat and eat until it cannot swallow another mouthful. It is a bird which loves the sun, and will bask in it for hours, while it dries off its feathers. Baby cormorants have black fluffy coats and they look rather like woolly golliwogs.

# of Sea Birds



7. Here are some terns, a species of little sea-birds which can be found in most parts of the world, ranging from the arctic regions to the tropic seas. During the last century many of these lovely birds were killed for their feathers. Happily such cruelty no longer exists.



8. Last but not least among our sea birds is the penguin. This strange bird cannot fly at all, but in the water they are as much at home as seals and porpoises. Largest of all the penguins is the 'emperor,' which stands between three and four feet high on its two very flat feet.



# BRER RABBIT

Brer Rabbit and the Moon in the Millpond.

Retold by Barbara Hayes.



**N**OW as you children know most of the time the animals who lived near Brer Rabbit were always playing tricks on each other — and very naughty tricks they were, too.

But just now and then things quietened down and all the animals lived together like one big happy family.

It had been one of those peaceful times just lately, but do you know, instead of being pleased that scamp Brer Rabbit felt bored.

"Hallo, Brer Terrapin," said Brer Rabbit, when they happened to meet one day. "How are things with you? Things with me are mighty dull."

Brer Terrapin agreed that things were mighty dull with him too.

So those two little scamps Brer Rabbit and his chum Brer Terrapin agreed together to play a prank on some of the other animals.

"We will invite Brer Fox and Brer Wolf and Brer Bear to meet us down by the mill pond tomorrow evening," said Brer Rabbit. "We will say there is going to be a fishing party, but I will fix up something more interesting than that. Ho! Ho! Just leave all the talking to me, Brer Terrapin. Just you sit back and say 'Yes' to everything that I say."

Well, with that Brer Rabbit went home to bed, but Brer Terrapin, who was a mighty slow walker, set off for the mill pond to make sure that he got there in time for the fun next evening.

Sure enough, the next evening, Brer Bear and Brer Fox and Brer Wolf met at the mill pond. Brer Bear had a hook and line, Brer Wolf had a hook and line and Brer Fox had a small net. And so that he wasn't outdone, Brer Terrapin came shuffling up just at the last minute with some bait. It had taken him a night and a day to reach the mill pond. He certainly was a slow walker, wasn't he?

Of course, Brer Rabbit was waiting to





greet the other animals and he had his hook and line with him too.

"I will be the first to try for some fish," said Brer Rabbit, walking up to the edge of the mill pond and making as if to throw his line. But then he stopped and looked into the water in a puzzled way and scratched his head and looked again as if he had seen something strange.

When they saw this, the other animals began to think that something was wrong.

"Lawks, Brer Rabbit," they called, "What in the name of goodness can you see in the pond?"

Naughty Brer Rabbit went on acting as if he could see something mighty strange. He scratched his head and rubbed his eyes and stared and sighed and at last he said,

"Well, folks we might as well pack up and go home. There will be no fishing for any of us in *this* pond tonight."

And Brer Terrapin, who remembered he was supposed to agree with everything Brer Rabbit said, scrambled forward and glanced in to the pond and said, "Yes indeed. To be sure. To be sure."

By this time Brer Bear and Brer Fox and Brer Wolf were feeling quite scared, and Brer Rabbit knew it.

"There's nothing to be scared of *really*," he said, "It's just that the *moon* has fallen into the *millpond*!"

When they heard that Brer Bear and Brer Fox and Brer Wolf were amazed. They crept forward to look and sure enough there was the moon swaying and swinging at the bottom of the pond.

Of course you and I know that what they

saw was just the reflection of the moon in the water. But the animals didn't know that and they felt mighty uneasy.

"Well, folks," said Brer Rabbit again, "It's clear to me that unless we get that moon out of the pond there's no fishing for us hereabouts. What do you say, Brer Terrapin?"

And of course, Brer Terrapin said:

"Yes! We must get the moon out of the pond."

Then Brer Rabbit pretended to have a very big think and then he said, "Do you know, I think the best thing to do is to send round to Brer Mud-Turtle and ask if we can borrow his big dredger net with the two handles."

"Oh, what a good idea," said Brer Terrapin, agreeing with Brer Rabbit as he had been told. "Why Brer Mud-Turtle is a close relative of mine and I know him so well that I call him Uncle Mudle just for fun. If you mentioned my name to him, I'm sure you'd find him willing to loan you his dredger net."

So Brer Rabbit kindly went to borrow the dredger net, while the others waited and while they were waiting, just to make more mischief, Brer Terrapin said he had heard that if you dragged the moon out of a mill pond, then a pot of gold usually came out, too.

Now of course Brer Bear and Brer Fox and Brer Wolf were mighty interested in gold and when Brer Rabbit came back, they said:

"As you were kind enough to fetch the net, we will do all the work of fishing out the moon."

Of course, they only said that so that they would be the first to reach the gold.

What they *didn't* know was that there wasn't any gold!

Then Brer Bear and Brer Fox and Brer Wolf took the dredger net and stepped into the pond. Further and further in they went, but they couldn't catch the moon.

Then just to make them scurry into the deepest part of the pond, Brer Rabbit said, "Look! There is the moon over there. I'll go in and get it before you."

With that Brer Bear and Brer Fox and Brer Wolf lunged forward into the deepest part of the pond and got soaked right up to the tips of their ears!

Brer Rabbit and Brer Terrapin just sat at the side of the pond and laughed and laughed.

Then, "Oh look! There's the moon up in the sky after *all*!" chuckled Brer Rabbit, "You've had all your trouble for nothing, folks!"

And although they weren't quite sure how it was they had been tricked, Brer Bear and Brer Fox and Brer Wolf were mighty, mighty cross. (There will be another Brer Rabbit story next week.)

#### ABOUT THE FRONT COVER

Hallo, boys and girls,

I chose the beautiful photograph on the cover this week because it reminded me of a famous little poem written by Emily Bronte:

Fall, leaves fall; die flowers away;  
Lengthen night and shorten day;  
Every leaf speaks bliss to me,  
Fluttering from the autumn tree.

The picture would make a wonderful addition to your scrap-book. I hope you like it.

Your friend,  
The Editor.





# What Twelve Wonderful Creatures Do

The world is full of many different living creatures. Here you will see the things that some of them do.



The swan swims on the water.



The eagle flies in the sky.



The mole burrows underground.



The spider walks on its web.



The snake glides through the grass.



The fly walks on the ceiling.



The fish lives under the water.



The rook builds on the tree-top.



The kingfisher dives into the river.



The toad climbs up a tree.



The hedgehog sleeps through the winter.



The eel lives in the mud.



# 1 and 1 make 2

# 1 and 2 make 3



1 monkey and 1 monkey

make 2 monkeys



1 boy and 2 boys

make 3 boys



2 girls and 2 girls

make 4 girls



2 ducks and 3 ducks

make 5 ducks



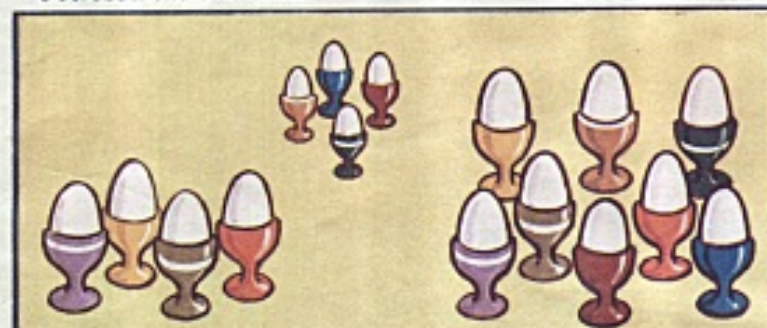
3 acrobats and 3 acrobats

make 6 acrobats



3 pears and 4 pears

make 7 pears



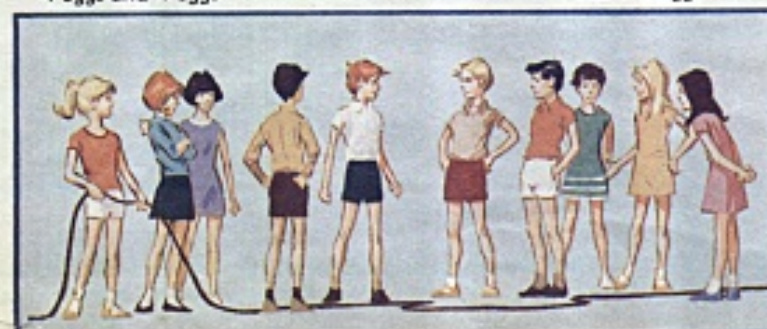
4 eggs and 4 eggs

make 8 eggs

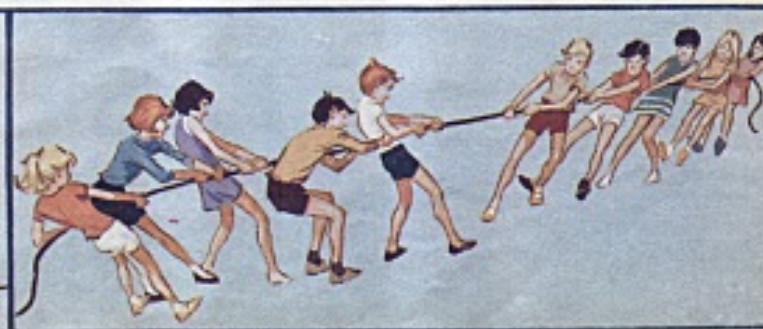


4 birds and 5 birds

make 9 birds



5 children and 5 children



make 10 children





## Valentine and Orson

The gentle Empress Bellisance and her baby twin sons were cast out of the palace by her cruel husband the Emperor Alexander. In the woods the Empress lost her babies.

**B**ELLISANCE knew that one of her babies had been taken away by a savage bear. What had happened to the other? She had left him lying on the ground while she ran after the bear. But the bear vanished from sight and when she returned, she found her other baby had disappeared.

You can imagine how unhappy the

Empress was. Broken-hearted, she sat on a grassy bank and hot tears ran down her cheeks.

She was still weeping when her faithful soldier friend Blandiman returned with some food he had bought in a nearby village.

He could see at once that something terrible had happened. He went pale and



Orson, the wild man of the woods, tore up a tree by its roots that they were really brothers. The fight





and attacked Valentine. Neither of the brave young men knew what was long and furious. Who would win?

and permission of Frederick Warne & Co. Ltd.

bit his lips in anger and sorrow as Bellisance told him what had happened.

"Dry your eyes, your majesty," he said. "I was born and brought up in the country. I will follow the bear's tracks and overtake it before it can harm your baby boy. Then I will try to discover what has happened to your other son."

Blandiman drew his trusty sword but before he could take a single step there came a heavy footstep and a loud roar of wicked glee as a great giant appeared, armed with a huge club.

The old soldier threw himself between the Empress and the giant and raised his sword. But in a twinkling, the giant brought his club down and Blandiman's sword was broken in two. A moment later the giant had knocked Blandiman to the ground, never to move again.

Then with an evil chuckle the giant threw the Empress over his shoulder and carried her off to his castle.

Meanwhile, the bear had taken the little baby to a cave where it had left its two cubs. The bear had taken a strange liking to the little pink hairless cub and wanted it as a plaything for its own cubs.

Gurgling with delight, the baby threw its tiny arms around one of the cubs and cuddled it.

The mother bear grunted and putting out its great red tongue, licked the baby boy as much as to say, "You are one of the family now."

Then she sat up and watched the two little bears and the tiny boy rolling over and over and playing happily together.

From that moment on, the mighty she-bear brought up the Emperor's son with her own sons. As he grew up, the boy grew into a mighty man with great

broad shoulders and a mane of long black hair.

He became very fierce and, of course, had to hunt for his food like his foster brothers, the bears. He learned how to hunt other wild animals for food. Now and then, he saw other human beings, but thought of them as enemies. That was why he always attacked them and would have nothing to do with them.

Because the people who lived in the forest villages always saw the strange man with bears beside him, they called him Orson. In French, the word for bear is "ours", (pronounced "oors").

Soon the village-folk grew afraid of entering the forest in case they met Orson and his bears and news of the terrible wild man reached the ears of the King of France himself.

#### Orson meets the King of France.

Now this king's name was Pepin and he was, in fact, the brother of the Empress Bellisance. So you see, he was Orson's uncle, though of course neither of them knew this.

It had been King Pepin who had found his sister's other son in the forest. Thinking that he had been left in the forest by his parents, King Pepin had given the boy the name of Valentine, because he had found him on St. Valentine's day.

He had brought up Valentine as though he were his own son and Valentine grew up into a brave and handsome knight.

Now it so happened that one day King Pepin was riding through the forest with one of his most valiant knights. Suddenly they heard a deep groan and the next moment the strange wild man leaped out of some bushes and barred the path.







At once the knight raised his boar-spear.

"Fly, your majesty," he begged. "Leave this savage to me."

The King was unarmed and after casting one glance at Orson's great club and glaring eyes, he turned his horse.

As he rode away, he called back:

"I will be back in ten minutes with help. See that the wild man does not escape."

The knight who had never before been defeated in battle smiled grimly.

"Have no fear, your majesty," he shouted. "By the time you return this rascal will be my prisoner."

Sure enough the King was back within ten minutes, with several of his armed soldiers. But to his astonishment, his knight was lying on the ground, sorely wounded.

Of Orson, there was no sign. Painfully the knight explained that, great warrior though he was, Orson had defeated him. It was a bitter lesson for the knight.

"No-one can out-fight the wild

man," he said. "He moves and strikes with the speed of light. I know of nobody who could defeat him."

He was carried back and did not rise from his bed again for one long year.

**Valentine fights Orson.**

Meanwhile Valentine had been away, fighting in a foreign land and earning a great name.

Returning to France, he soon heard about Orson, the wild man of the woods and how he had overthrown the King's bravest knight.

The King had offered a reward of a thousand pieces of gold for the capture of Orson, but there was another reward that Valentine had in mind, when he decided to set out to capture Orson. This was the hand of the King's daughter, Princess Eglantine, in marriage.

"For," thought Valentine, "We have long been in love with each other and surely the King will allow her to marry me if I can prove to him that I am the greatest knight in his kingdom."

Many gallant knights and soldiers had tried to win the reward of a thousand gold pieces. But each in turn had failed to capture Orson.

Now it was Valentine's turn.

Coolly he rode into the forest. It was late afternoon when suddenly he saw Orson coming towards him with a dead stag over his shoulders. He recognised the wild man at once.

Orson threw the stag to the ground and with a loud roar of anger tore up a small tree by its roots and threw himself on this new enemy.

Valentine just had time to draw his sword, when Orson was upon him.

And so, not knowing who the other really was, the two brothers fought long and dreadfully, each trying to lay the other low.

This time Orson met his match. Quick as he was, Valentine was quicker and at last he was thrown to the ground, so tired he could not prevent Valentine from tying his hands.

Then Valentine remounted his horse and rode back to King Pepin's castle with Orson walking grimly behind him.

There was a strange look, almost of affection, in Orson's eyes, as he looked at Valentine. Never before had he met a man who could outwit and outfight him.

There was a great stir in the castle when it was known that Valentine had captured Orson.

The King was waiting with Princess Eglantine and his court in the Great Hall, when Valentine entered with his prisoner.

Quietly Orson sank on one knee and taking the hand of Princess Eglantine, kissed it.

"Who is this strange man?" wondered King Pepin.

But many adventures were to befall Valentine and Orson before King Pepin's question could be answered.

(More of this exciting story next week.)



This story is a memory test. Read it carefully and then turn to page 19 and try to answer the questions about it.

# The Magic Bagpipes

ONCE upon a time in the beautiful highlands of Scotland, there lived four girl cousins.

Their names were Helen, Mary, Janet and Fiona.

Each maiden had a dog. These dogs were (of course) Highland terriers and their names were Jock, Tammy, Hamish and Sandy. Everywhere the cousins went, their little dogs followed them.

Now, although the dogs were very good-tempered there was one thing they all hated and that was the sound of bagpipes. If they heard somebody playing the bagpipes, they would growl and show their teeth and run after the piper for all they were worth. This was very strange, because everybody born in Scotland is supposed to love the sound of the pipes.

One day, when the cousins were eating their breakfast of hot porridge, there came from over the hills the distant sound of pipes. At once the four dogs began to growl.

"Be quiet!" ordered Helen.

"Ssssh!" hissed Mary.

"Stop growling!" called out Janet.

"Hush!" said Fiona.

But the dogs would not be quiet. Then into sight, marching over the heather, came a tall thin man, playing his bagpipes and the sound was just like fairy music.

As soon as the four dogs saw the piper, they ran at him, showing their teeth. The piper just grinned and breaking off his melody, played four shrill notes and at once the four dogs changed into four black grouse and flew up into the sky.

The four cousins stared amazed. It was Fiona the youngest who found her tongue first.

"Why, that must be Braw Johnny, the fairy piper," she whispered to her cousins. "He has cast a spell on our dogs because they showed their teeth at him."

Braw Johnny the fairy piper sat on a rock happily playing his pipes, while the four birds flew round and round his head.

The four cousins ran to his side. "Oh, please, please let us have our dogs back again," they begged.

Braw Johnny laughed.

"Only if each one of you



gives to me something that costs nothing but is worth more than rubies," he chuckled.

Well, the girls thought and thought and thought and it was Helen, the eldest of the cousins, who thought of the answer.

"A kiss!" she said, clapping her hands. "Braw Johnny wants each

of us to kiss him, then he will change the birds back into dogs again."

At once each of the four cousins gave Braw Johnny a kiss, and the birds changed into dogs again.

"But in future your dogs will always love the pipes," chuckled

the fairy piper. Then he walked away still playing his magic music. And do you know — forever after, those four dogs always barked with delight when they heard the sighing of the bagpipes.

And only the four cousins knew why. (Now turn to page 19 for the questions.)





## BEAUTIFUL PICTURES

Here is a picture of three lovely horses painted by an artist named J.F. Herring. It is called "The Frugal Meal". That means that there is not much for the horses to eat. Probably their master is still hard at work in the fields. But be sure he will soon be back to give his hungry horses more for their meal. (The picture is reproduced by kind permission of the Tate Gallery, London, SW7).



# THE FAIR LAND OF ITALY



SWITZERLAND

AUSTRIA

FRANCE

Turin

Milan

Venice

Bologna

Parma

Pescara

Rome

Naples

Bari

Reggio

SICILY

CORSICA

SARDINIA

The country of Italy is shaped rather like a big boot. You can see it quite clearly in the map of Europe (above.) It is coloured green. To the left of Italy are the islands of Corsica and Sardinia (grouped together) and at the "toe of the boot" is the island of Sicily. All these islands belong to Italy. Italy has only been a united country for 99 years. Before that it consisted of several small states and kingdoms.

Hundreds of thousands of tourists travel every year to take their holidays in sunny Italy. Supposing you were riding a motor-scooter on a tour of Italy. Try to find a way, without crossing a line, from Rome the capital city of Italy to Naples and then southwards to Reggio: from Reggio to Bari and then northwards to Pescara: from Pescara through Bologna (say Bologna) to Venice and from there to Milan, Turin, Florence and back to Rome.

The flag of France is blue, white and red. The Italian flag is like the French flag except for a green section instead of a blue one. It is said that Napoleon, the great Emperor of the French, designed the Italian flag in honour of an Italian legion that fought with his army.



# THE TOWN MOUSE AND THE Country Mouse

This week the Country Mouse learns to ride a bicycle.

by Barbara Hayes

ONCE upon a time there were two mice. One lived in the town and one lived in the country.

The mouse who lived in the town was very smart and fashionable, but the mouse who lived in the country was a very different person.

Winifred, the country mouse, liked a quiet life. She never went out in the evening, like the town mouse. Well after all, in the country, there isn't anywhere very exciting to go.

The town mouse could go out into the bright lights and drop into the theatre and chat with her fashionable friends.

But if the country mouse tried to step outside her front door after dark, there were no bright lights to greet her. In fact, there were scarcely any lights at all and the country mouse was much more likely to drop into a muddy puddle than into the theatre.

So, all in all, Winifred never went out at night. She just lived in her little cottage, doing the housework and washing her clothes in the stream and making home-made cakes.

But of course Winifred did go out sometimes. Country folk are not really as dull as the town mouse thought. It was just that their pleasures were different.

For instance, there was the afternoon when Winifred's boy-friend Bertie tried to teach Winifred how to ride his bicycle. There were some good laughs floating across the grass and between the trees that afternoon, I can tell you.

"Come along Winnie, my love," Bertie said. "Nip up on to that bicycle, take your courage in your hands and you'll soon be scorching round the village, making the dust fly."

Winifred, looked puzzled. "I thought I had to take the *handlebars* in my hands, not my *courage*," she said.

Winifred was always a bit slow about mechanical things, but they got everything right in the end and Winifred was soon

wobbling along the road on the bicycle, with Bertie running at her side holding the saddle.

"You will get on better if you stop looking down at the bicycle and look up at the tree at the end of the road," said Bertie.

Winifred thought that was silly. "But I'm not trying to ride the *tree* at the end of the lane," she said crossly. "I'm trying to ride the *bicycle*. Really, Bertie, you do say some unhelpful things. If you go on like this, I won't invite you home to tea for some of my home-made fruity cake with the white icing."

So Bertie, who had only meant that it was easier to balance on a bicycle if you look ahead instead of down, didn't say anything else.

Now, have you ever noticed that when one person does something, it makes lots of other people want to do the same thing?

When the other country folk saw Winifred trying to ride Bertie's bicycle, they got out their own bicycles as well. Of course, the bicycles weren't very new.

Now there is something else you may have noticed as well and that is that when a group of people are enjoying themselves, there always seems to be somebody who wants to come along and *spoil* things.

Well, the afternoon of the bicycle rides, the person who wanted to spoil the fun was the little mouse called Rex the Wrecker.

Rex was one of those people who just broke everything and tripped over everything and knocked over everything that he came near.

Sometimes Bertie said that Rex could break things just by looking at them.

So Rex was called Rex the Wrecker and everyone tried to keep out of his way.

On the afternoon of the bicycling fun, Rex the Wrecker got up from the dinner table — CRASH! CLATTER! TINKLE! SWOOSH! — and said, "I think I will go out now, mummy."

The crash, clatter, tinkle and swoosh, by the way, were where Rex had knocked his plate to the floor and smashed it, pushed his fork

off the edge of the table, pulled over the water jug and broken it and sloshed the water all over the table. But these breakages were so usual with Rex the Wrecker that his mummy didn't even mention them. She was just glad that Rex hadn't broken *everything* on the table.

Then Rex went out through the front door — WHAM — CLATTER — CLATTER — (that was where he slammed the front door and broke the glass); across the front garden — SQUELCH! SQUELCH! (that was where he trod on the flowers and squashed them); and through the garden gate — WUMP! SPLINTER! SPLINTER! (that was where he really went *through* the gate instead of opening it).

Then Rex went for a walk through the woods only pausing to bounce a ball through a shop window CRASH! — as he passed through the village.

Well then Rex the Wrecker saw Winifred and her chums having such fun on their cycles, the thought, "I must get some fun out of this too."

So he took a rope from Farmer Badger's barn and started to tie it across the road.

"When they all come cycling round the corner, the rope will knock them off their bicycles and they will land on the ground — WUMP! WUMP! WUMP!" thought Rex the Wrecker. "What a laugh that will be. Well, it will be a laugh for *me* anyway."

Luckily for Winnie, Farmer Badger had seen what Rex the Wrecker was doing.

"Oh no you don't my lad," said Farmer Badger. "Because if Winnie and her chums fall off their cycles — WUMP! WUMP! WUMP! — then my hand will spank the seat of your trousers — WUMP! WUMP! WUMP! And we will see who laughs then."

So Rex didn't play his trick after all. And Winnie finished her lesson happily, but what a narrow escape! Life in the country can be thrilling after all, can't it?

Next week's story will be about the Town Mouse.











# PINOCCHIO

The story of a mischievous wooden puppet who runs away from home.

**I**N the morning about daybreak the coach arrived safely in the "Land of the Boobies."

It was a country unlike any other country in the world. The population was composed entirely of boys. The oldest were fourteen, and the youngest scarcely eight years old. In the streets there was such merriment, noise and shouting, that it was enough to turn anybody's head.

There were troops of boys everywhere. Some were playing with balls. Some rode wooden horses. A party were playing hide and seek, a few were chasing each other. Some were walking on their hands with their feet in the air. Some were laughing, some shouting, some were calling out; others clapped their hands, or whistled, or clucked like a hen who has just laid an egg.

To sum it all up, it was such an uproar, that not to be deafened it would have been necessary to stuff one's ears with cotton wool.

Pinocchio, Candlewick and the other boys who had made the journey with the little coachman, had scarcely set foot in the town before they were in the thick of the fun and I need not tell you that in a few minutes they had made friends with everybody. Where could happier boys be found?

In the midst of continual games and every amusement, the hours, the days and the weeks passed like lightning.

"Oh, what a delightful life!" said Pinocchio,

whenever by chance he met Candlewick.

"See, then, if I was not right?" replied the other. "And to think that you did not want to come! To think that you had taken it into your head to return home to your Fairy and to lose your time in lessons!... If you are at this moment free from the bother of books and school, you owe it all to me, your best friend."

"It is true, Candlewick! If I am now a happy boy, it is all your doing." And away danced Pinocchio.

This delightful life had gone on for five months. The days had been entirely spent in play and amusement, without a thought of books or school, when one morning Pinocchio awoke to a most disagreeable surprise that put him into a very bad temper.

When Pinocchio awoke he scratched his head; and in scratching his head he discovered . . . Can you guess what he discovered?

He discovered to his great astonishment that his ears had grown more than six inches.

He went at once in search of a looking glass that he might look at himself, but not being able to find one he filled the basin of his washing-stand with water, and he saw reflected what he certainly would never have wished to see. He saw his head embellished with a splendid pair of donkey's ears!

Only think of poor Pinocchio's anger.

He began to cry and roar, and he beat his head against the wall; but the more he cried the longer his ears grew; they grew, and grew and became hairy towards the points.

"I must go and find Candlewick at once," he said at last. "Candlewick will know what this is all about."

And he turned to go out. But when he reached the door he remembered his donkey's ears, and feeling ashamed to show them in the street, what do you think he did?

He took a big cotton cap, and putting it on his head he pulled it well down over his donkey's ears.

He then set out and went everywhere in search of Candlewick. He looked for him in the streets, in the squares, in every possible place; but he could not find him. He asked everybody he met, but no one had seen him.

He then went to seek him at his house; and having reached the door he knocked.

"Who is there?" asked Candlewick.

"It is I!" answered the puppet.

"Wait a moment and I will let you in."

After half an hour the door was opened, and imagine Pinocchio's feelings when upon going into the room he saw his friend Candlewick with two large donkey's ears, too.

"Why, you're just like me," said Pinocchio and he took off the cotton cap. When Candlewick saw Pinocchio's ears, he started laughing. Then Pinocchio laughed at



Candlewick's ear. And they laughed and laughed and laughed, until they had to hold themselves together. But in the midst of their merriment, Candlewick suddenly stopped, staggered and said to his friend:

"Help, help, Pinocchio!"

"What is the matter with you?"

"Alas, I cannot any longer stand upright."

"No more can I," exclaimed Pinocchio, tottering and beginning to cry.

And whilst they were talking they both doubled up and began to run round the room on their hands and feet. And as they ran, their hands became hoofs, their faces grew longer and their backs became covered with a light grey hairy coat sprinkled with black.

They had both turned into donkeys!

Oh, if they had but been wiser!

But instead of sighs and weeping they could only bray like asses; and they brayed loudly and said in chorus: "Hee-haw! Hee-haw!"

Whilst this was going on some one knocked at the door and a voice on the outside said:

"Open the door! I am the coachman, who brought you to this country. Open at once, or it will be the worse for you!"

Finding that the door remained shut the little coachman burst it open with a kick, and coming into the room he said to Pinocchio and Candlewick with his usual little laugh:

"Well done boys! You brayed well, and I knew you by your voices. That is why I am here."

At these words the two little donkeys were quite shocked and stood with their heads

down, their ears lowered, and their tails between their legs.

At first the little coachman stroked and patted them; then taking out a brush he brushed them well. Then he put a rope round their necks and led them to the market-place, in hopes of selling them and making a lot of money.

And indeed buyers were not wanting.

Candlewick was bought by a farm-worker and Pinocchio by the director of a big company of clowns and tight-rope dancers, who bought him that he might teach him to leap and to dance with the animals belonging to the company.

You see, the wicked little coachman, who had a face all milk and honey, made journeys all round the world with his coach. As he went along he collected, with all sorts of promises, all the idle little boys who did not like books or school. As soon as his coach was full he took them to the "Land of Boobies," that they might pass their time in games, in uproar and in fun. When these poor boys, from lots of fun and no lessons, had become so many little donkeys, he carried them off to fairs and markets to be sold. And in this way he had made heaps of money and had become a millionaire.

What became of Candlewick I do not know; but I do know that Pinocchio from the very first day had to endure a hard life.

When he was put into his stall his master filled the manger with straw; but Pinocchio, having tried a mouthful spat it out again.

The next morning his master woke him up early and shouted at the top of his voice:

"Get up! Get up! Are you going to sleep all day? You must come with me to the circus and there I will teach you to jump through paper hoops, to stand and to dance upright on your hind legs."

Poor Pinocchio had to learn all these tricks. But it took him three months before he had learned them and he had many a whipping during that time.

Life is now so unhappy for Pinocchio. Learn what happens to him next week.

Here are the questions about the lovely story on page 13. Try to answer the questions and then re-read the story to see if you have answered them correctly.

1. How many cousins were there?
2. What was the name of the eldest girl?
3. What was the fairy piper's name?
4. What did he do to the four dogs?







# The WISE OLD OWL

## Knows all the answers

The Wise Old Owl is here to answer many interesting questions for you.



### 1. What is a waterspout?

"A waterspout is a whirling column of water sometimes seen out at sea. A big storm sucks up the water towards the clouds and the column can be hundreds of feet high. Usually a waterspout breaks in two and vanishes after about half an hour."



### 2. Why do some animals turn white in the winter?

"In countries which have very cold winters, like Canada and Northern Russia, animals like rabbits, foxes and weasels grow a white coat during the winter, in order that they cannot be seen by their enemies in the snow. They can also stalk their prey without being seen."



### 3. Why does the moon change shape?

"The moon is a globe, like the earth and the other planets and it does not actually change shape. But as the earth and the moon move round the sun, the earth blocks out some of the sun's light. So we only see part of the moon. A full 'day' on the moon actually lasts for a month, with two weeks of sunshine and two weeks of darkness."



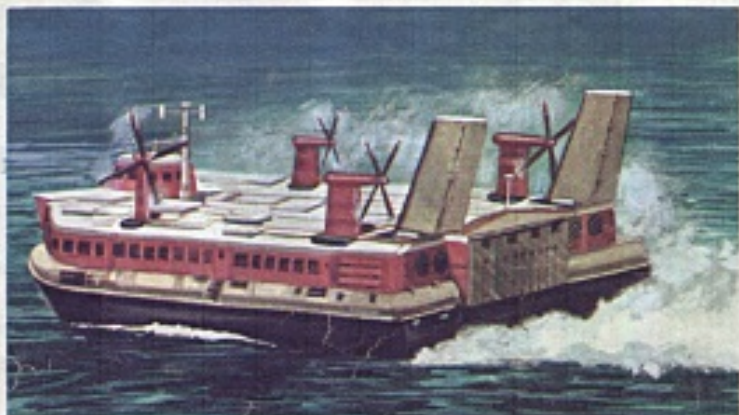
### 4. Are there dragons alive today?

"Dragons, which are really giant lizards, still live in various parts of the world. The largest of these dragons live on an island named Komodo, thousands of miles away in what is called the Far East. The dragons grow more than ten feet in length and are quite fierce. They have bright tongues which flick in and out and this may be where the old tale of dragons breathing fire came from."



### 5. How does a submarine go up and down in the water?

"When a submarine dives under the sea, the sailors pump in sea water to tanks on each side of the submarine. This makes it heavier and it sinks. When they pump the water out and the tanks are empty, the submarine is lighter and the air inside the submarine makes it rise up."



### 6. What machine is a mixture of a car, an aeroplane and a ship?

"The hovercraft, which is a British invention. The hovercraft has aeroplane engines and propellers to drive it along and air which is forced out underneath the body, makes the hovercraft rise up. So it can travel over the top of the sea and also over land. It has a rubber skirt round the sides to keep the air in."